

Chronology of the Crisis

Following is a chronology of recent events leading up to the present crisis between Israel and the Arab nations:

1966

Nov. 12—An Israeli command car on patrol in the northern Negev detonates a mine, killing three soldiers and wounding five.

Nov. 13—In retaliation for that incident, and for what is described as 12 other acts of sabotage, Israeli Army units cross into Jordan and destroy 40 homes in the village of Es Samu after removing the occupants. Fighting in the raid is fierce, and Jordanian and Israeli planes clash in the sky.

Nov. 15—Israeli charges that Syria bears the blame for the attack on Es Samu, saying that the Syrian Government encourages, maintains and organizes sabotage in Israel even though agents cross the border from other countries.

Nov. 16—The United States, Britain, France and the Soviet Union condemn Israel in the United Nations Security Council.

Nov. 25—Palestinian Arabs demonstrate against King Hussein of Jordan, shouting "Down with monarchy!" and "Give us arms!" They maintain that King Hussein is afraid to strike back at Israel for the raid on Es Samu.

Nov. 28—Jordan's Premier, Wasfi al-Tall, charged that the mobs had been financed by "two outside Arab sources," apparently meaning Egypt and Syria.

Dec. 8—Syria urges Jordanians to overthrow King Hussein and his Government.

1967

Jan. 2—An Israeli soldier is wounded in an exchange of

fire across the Syrian border. Intermittent clashes continue for a week.

March 17—Two Arab infiltrators are killed by Israeli soldiers, who have pursued them into Jordan.

April 6—Israel reports that six Syrian MIG's have been shot down in an air battle. Syria claims five Israeli jets.

April 11—Syrian gunners fire on an Israeli border settlement, where 200 American tourists take shelter in underground bunkers.

May 6—Israel charges Syrian terrorists with having shelled a settlement from Lebanon.

May 15—Egypt is placed on a "war footing" as combat units and artillery vehicles rumble through Cairo.

May 18—The United Arab Republic, which has in the past attributed weakness to other Arab nations including Syria, asks the United Nations to remove its emergency force from the armistice line on the Egyptian border with Israel. Secretary General Thant orders the withdrawal of the troops. Israel orders a partial call-up of her reserves.

May 22—Washington urges American citizens not to visit Israel, Syria, Jordan or the United Arab Republic.

May 23—President Gamal Abdel Nasser announces an Egyptian blockade of the Gulf of Aqaba, cutting off Israel's access to the Arabian Sea through her port at Elath.

May 24—Cairo says it has set out sea mines to enforce the blockade.